Swedish Discipline

THE DEVOTIONS AND FORMES OF PRAYER,

DAILY VSED IN THE KING OF SVVEDENS ARMY:

Being the first part of our intended Booke concerning the SVVEDISH DISCIPLINE;

Religious, Civill, and *Military.*

The Reason for our publishing this by it selfe, wee desire the Reader to looke for in the Epistle.

LONDON,
Printed for *Nathanaell Butter* and *Nicholas Bourne.*
1632.

3456 a. 30.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

¶ The Stationer to the Reader.

Favourable and judicious:

THat having beene heretofore by promiſe engaged to giue you all the three parts of the Swediſh Diſcipline, wee are heere enforced to preſent you with the firſt onely, and that diſmembred from the other two; We humbly deſire you to accept of this fayre excuſe for it. Tis done to prevent your being abuſed by another: Who ayming (as may be ſuſpected) more at his owne profit, than the benefit of his Reader: vpon hope of venting his Booke vnder that moſt acceptable name of this victorious King; is about to thruſt theſe following Prayers vpon the world; barely taken, and perchance not ſo literally tranſlated, out of the Booke called Arma Suecica. One thing or two (beſides the vſeleſſeneſſe of the volume he is about to Print it in) over-ſlipped in his Tranſlation, wee here thinke fit to tell you of, which vpon ſight of ſome of the printed ſheetes (the Copie having by himſelfe beene before ſold vnto vs) we diſcovered.

First, That his Translator hath no where observed how many sentences in these Prayers (which are taken out of the Common Prayer Booke vsed in the Kingdome of Sweden) are the same with those in our English Common Prayer Booke: the reason of it being, for that both our Common Prayer Booke and theirs, were taken out of one and the same Treasury of Antiquitie.

The second omission of his Translater is this: That he hath not beene diligent enough to turne vnto those places of holy Scripture, out of which the most of these Prayers are gathered: nor hath observed the allowed and best Translation of our Church; but done it in his owne phrases. And that our Booke hath beene carefull in this poynt, wee appeale to the Scriptures quoted in the Margent: which is a third thing in which his other Booke is also defectiue. As for other differences in performance, in the faithfulnesse and literallnesse of Translation; that wee wholly referre vnto the Iudgement of the able Readers.

Thus having made you acquainted with our purpose; wee also referre it vnto your discretions, either to stay your hands from buying of eyther; or those that buy ours, to keepe it till next weeke that the other two Parts come out also: at which time they may be bound together, as was at first intended. The second part of the Intelligencer is likewise now in hand, which we hope ere long to furnish you with, if it pleases God. Vale.

THE

THE CHRISTIAN PART OF THE KING OF SVVEDENS DISCIPLINE.

The first Part.

IT is not without a mystery, I suppose, that the old *Israelites* had an Armory in their Temple: they would shew us, That these two cannot well be parted. And truely, me-thinkes, that a Temple in an Army, is none of the weakest peices of fortification. How prevalent an Orator, the prayers of devout warriours haue beene with the

Lord of Hosts; the conquests and examples of the same old *Israelites*, may abundantly informe us. How often hath victory (and that almost visibly too, I am sure, sensibly) come ryding downe upon the triumphant wings of devout prayer?

The *Tabernacle* carried about by that most Christian Emperour *Constantine*, where ever his Campe went; and where, in stead of a *Temple* hee celebrated his daily devotions: conquered more, perchance, for him, than ten of his heathen Legions. If *Moses* prayes, Exod. 17. whilest *Iosuah* fights, *Amalek* must needes be dung downe. This our most pious Conquerour now, that he might as neerly as might be, resemble that great *Hebrew Generall*, that first of the nine *Worthies*: and that ever-glorious *Constantine*, that first of the Christian Emperours; hath not courage enough (it seemes) to adventure himselfe into the field, till he first be impregnably fortified with this *holy Spell*, this *whole armour of God*.

Vpon the dayes of the *Israelites* March, when their Camp in the Wildernesse removed, and the *Arke* of God with it; *Moses* had prayers then twice a day: at the *Rising*, namely, Num. 10. 35 and at the *Setting* downe of the *Arke* againe, had

had *fram'd* a set forme of prayer. And that this religious King, might not seeme to *fight the Lords Battells*, without the Lords direction, he hath taken order to haue it call'd for, by most solemne and frequent prayers, twice a day used throughout his whole Leaguer. And that not onely when the Campe remoues; but when it lyes still too: not onely before a battell, or a danger (as if he were at Sea) but even when no enemy is at hand; even then he prayes too. And not onely commands his Army twice a day; but himselfe, as I heare, uses to set apart many whole dayes, to his owne pious privacy, and his closest devotions: upon which may no man then speake to him, because he then speakes with God *Behold here are two Swords*; Fighting and Praying, and Praying & Fighting: thus hath the King of *Sweden* learn'd to conquer. It is none of the unpolitikest parts of his Majestics new Discipline, that I now present you with; which the exemplary pietie of that religious Prince, hath taught me to put in the first place of his Discipline; seeing in the following Articles of his civill Discipline, himselfe giues the first place unto those Articles, which concerne God and his service.

To crosse that *Proverbiall* Verse therefore which sayes *that Souldiers haue neyther Faith nor Religion in them*, I will here afford you some of those Formes of his daily prayer, frequented in every Quarter of his Leaguer, as I finde them in the Booke called *Arma Suecica, Pag 77.*

¶ The Prayers.

In time of our Neceßities, and for the Christian Church.

O Almightie and eternall Lord God, who delightest not in the death of a sinner, but wouldest rather that all should liue and come to the knowledge of the truth: we humbly intreate thee by thy Christ, thine onely Sonne, our Lord; that thou wouldest please to bestow thy grace upon all faithfull Doctors and Teachers; to the intent they may purely and clearely deliver thy Word: and that all such as eyther hate it, or with false doctrine corrupt it, or by force persecute it; thy teachers may be able

ble manfully to reſiſt; and ſo enlighten them, that they may bring them to the knowledge of thy ſelfe. Grant, mercifull Father, thy Holy Spirit unto all Chriſtian and lawfull Magiſtrates, that they may well and peaceably rule their own Subjects; and that under them we all leading a quiet and a blameleſſe life; may with a true faith celebrate the riches of thy grace; and with a conſtant mind in all holineſſe and righteouſneſſe, as may be pleaſing; ſerue thee the true God and Lord of Lords, thorough thy only beloved Sonne Ieſus Chriſt our Lord. Amen.

Another Prayer to the ſame purpoſe.

ALmightie and everlaſting God, Creator of Heaven and Earth; we thy poore children, doe from the bottome of our hearts in the name of thy beloved Sonne Ieſus Chriſt entreat thee: that by the power of thy Spirit thou wouldſt be pleaſed to direct thine owne Chriſtian Church, with all the true ſervants of it: that with conſtancy they may cleaue unto thy Word; ſo increaſing in faith, hope, charitie, and patience un-

to the end, that they may be saved. Vouchsafe thy divine grace also, unto all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governours; and especially the King our Soveraigne Lord: and to all their Counsellours and chiefe Officers; that they may so rule their Subjects, thy people, well and according to thy good pleasure; as that peace, good dealing, and righteousnes, may be cherished; troubles, injustice, and all wickednesse, may be banished, and quite taken out of the way.

Looke mercifully upon our enemies, and upon all those that persecute us: cause that both they and we, may seriously repent us of our sinnes: grant them and us and all the whole Christian world, such a minde to the loue of peace, that we may serue thee, O holy God, in all pietie and honestie.

Comfort, moreover, all those that are afflicted, poore, sicke, sorrowfull, distressed captiues, troubled in minde, those that suffer persecution or temptation; that they may beare the crosse patiently, and obtaine at last a happie issue out of all their troubles. Blesse the fruits of the earth also unto us, for the necessary nourishment of our bodies; and preserve them from all danger and ill weather.

And

And eſpecially be thou preſent with us in this our expedition; pardon our ſinnes, and mercifully turne away from us theſe puniſhments which we haue deſerued.

Keepe ſafe, moreover, our Lord the King from all dangers both of ſoule and body; preſerue all his Captaines & Commanders, higher and lower together with his whole Army, and our fellow-ſouldiers. Grant us, O Lord our God, unanimous and ſincere minds, wiſe direction, happie proceedings, and our deſired end, in all our actions and endevours: So as may beſt make to the glory of thy holy Name, the quietneſſe, peace, comfort, joy, and happineſſe, finally, both temporall and eternall; of our ſelues, Countrey, and all theſe afflicted Chriſtians, which profeſſe the Orthodox and true faith. Shew us ſome token for good, that they which hate us may ſee it and be aſhamed: becauſe thou Lord haſt holpen us, and comforted us. Theſe bleſſings that thou wouldeſt vouchſafe unto us, we thy poore children entreate thee humbly, by the death & paſſion of thy onely Sonne Ieſus Chriſt, who liueth and reigneth with thee world without end. Amen. Pſal. 86. 17.

Another

Another Prayer to the same purpose.

3 OMnipotent and eternall God, Father of our Lord Iesus Christ, Creator and preserver of all things: most humbly we entreate thee, together with thy beloved Sonne and holy Spirit, that thou wouldest be pleased to be favourable unto us; even for the merits of thy Sonne Iesus Christ: whom in thy wonderfull counsell thou hast given us to be a Sacrifice for our sinnes, and whom thou hast appoynted to be our Advocate and Mediator; that by Him thou mightest expresse thy justly conceived anger against the sinnes of the world; and thy mercies towards us. Sanctifie Lord and guide us by thy Holy Spirit: gather, governe, and preserue thy Christian Church; giue us thy grace, that according unto what thou hast in thy holy Word prescribed us, we may liue holily and unblamedly in this present world. Preserve our Lord the King, our soveraigne Lady the Queene, their royall Daughter, and all the regall Family, unto the glory of thy Name, and the generall comfort and protection of us all. Grant us a good government in the Common-wealth, and whatsoever els

The Queene of *Swedens* name is *Maria Eleonora*; sister unto *George William*, now Marqueſſe & Elector of *Brandenburg*. This young Lady their Daughter be-

is

is neceſſary for our wel-being; Peace, namely, a happie government, with a good and an honeſt neighbourhood. Bleſſe, finally, our counſells & our enterpriſes: and that through Ieſus Chriſt our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the holy Spirit, one God true and coequall. Ameh.

ing the onely childe of the King of *Sweden*, now liuing, is named *Chriſtina*: who was by the States of *Sweden* in the Parliament of *Stockholme*, *An.* 1627. received for their Queene, in caſe the King ſhould dye without other Iſſue.

Another Prayer to the ſame purpoſe.

MOſt mereifull God, and heavenly Father: wee giue vnto thee all thankes for thoſe thy benefits, which vntill this day thou out of thy Fatherly goodneſſe haſt beſtowed upon us. And firſt of all, for that thou haſt redeemed us by thy Sonne, and haſt in thy Word reuealed him unto us, in whom thou offereſt remiſſion of ſinnes, righteouſneſſe, and everlaſting life, unto all men, that with a penitent heart and true faith embrace it. 4

Preſerue we beſeech thee pure and uncorrupt, thine owne holy Word & Sacraments, in theſe dangerous times, againſt all Hereticks and falſe Teachers. Eſpecially againſt the Papiſts: who at this preſent with many

bloudy ſlaughters, and inhumane tyranny, doe like ravening Wolues & roaring Lyons, undeſervedly ſcatter and devoure thy poore Chriſtian flocke. Looke downe O Lord upon the miſerable condition of thy people, refraine the inſolency of their enemies, hinder thou their bloudy purpoſes, that ſo they may perceiue, that thou thy ſelfe fighteſt for thy holy Church; nor wilt giue it for a prey unto them.

Next, O Lord, pray we for all thoſe Deputies of thine, to whom thou haſt committed the government of the Cõmon-wealth, and the ſword of juſtice. For our own King firſt of all, whom thou in mercy haſt ſet over us, to be our head and protector: Preſerue his Majeſtie from all perills, as well ſecret as open: grant proſperitie of ſucceſſe unto him: victory and deliverance againſt the enemies of his perſon and Kingdome. Defend him, Lord, with the ſtrength of thy right hand in this preſent and dangerous expedition; which for the ſafetie of his owne Kingdome, and for the obteyning of a good Peace, he hath undertaken: and graunt that the Warres being brought unto a happie end, both himſelfe and his whole Army,

may

may ſafely returne againe into their owne Countries.

Nor leſſe earneſtly doe wee recommend unto thee our Soveraigne Lady the Queenes Majeſtie, with her royall Daughter; Bleſſe Lord both him and her, and keepe them both with thy Fatherly goodneſſe and mercy. Wee recommend unto thee in like manner the Right Honourable the privie Counſellours and chiefe Magiſtrates of his Kingdome: ſo governe and direct them all with thy Holy Spirit; that they may preferre thy glory before all; and with an honeſt and a good heart, ſtudy the proſperitie both of King and Kingdome. Pray we alſo for his Majeſties Army, and Navy, and for all his Mettall mynes, and all things elſe, which may be beneficiall unto the Cõmon-wealth, and commodious unto the Subject. Turne away, for thy Chriſts ſake, what ever may eyther deſtroy or endanger them: and giue a bleſſing unto any thing, that may any wayes advance the truth of our Religion, and our Country in generall. Looke favourably, O heavenly Father, upon all the Profeſſors of the ſame true religion with us; who being ſorely at this preſent oppreſſed by the Pa-

piſts, ſuffer the loſſe both of their liues and fortunes: Succour them, Lord, that they may bee delivered from theſe troubles. Keepe us in health from the noyſome peſtilence, from ſudden and unhappie death; from dearth, famine, ſcar-fires, mutinyes, diſagreements amongſt our ſelues, and from hayle and tempeſt. Infuſe into our hearts concord, faithfulneſſe, and mutuall charitie. Comfort all thoſe that are afflicted, ſicke, in priſon or calamitie. Succour and comfort all widowes and fatherleſſe, women with childe, and that giue ſucke. Be thou guide unto all thoſe that travell eyther by land or by water: that they walking in thy right paths, and having proſperouſly diſpatched their owne buſineſſe, may ſafely returne at length unto their owne families. Deliver us, Lord God, from all evill: and when our fatall houre of death ſhall come, mercifully receiue us into thy Kingdome: tranſlate our ſoules out of this vale of miſery, into thy heavenly Paradiſe, where we may laud and prayſe thee for it, world without end, Amen.

II.

A Prayer for forgiueneſſe of ſinnes.

O Lord God, heavenly Father, who delighteſt not in the death of a ſinner, nor wouldeſt that he ſhould periſh, but that he ſhould be converted and liue: we humbly entreate of thee, mercifully to turne from us thoſe puniſhments which our ſinnes haue deſerved: and that thou wouldſt be pleaſed in plentifull manner to beſtow thy mercy upon us, thorough Ieſus Chriſt our Lord. Amen.

Another Prayer to the ſame purpoſe.

O Wel-beloved Lord Ieſus Chriſt, haue mercy upon us miſerable ſinners; and looke with the eyes of compaſſion upon us, as thou ſomtimes diddeſt upō *Mary Magdalene*, that penitent ſinner, when lying at thy feete, ſhee from the bottome of her heart ſincerely bewayled her owne tranſgreſſions: and the *Publican* in the Temple when he ſmote upon his breaſt, and implored thy favour: and the *Theefe* upon the

Crosse when he entreated and obteyned thy pardon. Lord grant us to receiue the same this day from thee: absolue thou us in Heaven, forgiue us our sinnes, O God, thou author of all comfort. Cast us not away from thy presence; but cause us so to walke in thy feare, that in faith and loue wee may serue and please thee, thorough Iesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

III.

For Peace and Concord.

1 GIue peace, in our time, O Lord: because there is no other that fighteth for us, but onely thou O God. Giue peace unto our King, and all other Princes: direct them rightly to govern the Cõmon-wealth: and grant that under them wee may liue a quiet and a peaceable life, in all pietie and honestie. Amen.

Another.

Another.

O Lord God heavenly Father, from whom all courage of minde, good counsayle, and just workes doe proceede; giue unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot giue: that both our hearts may depend vpon thy Commandements; and also that being safe under thy protection, wee may passe our time in rest and quietnesse, thorough Iesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Another.

O Almightie and eternall God, King of glory and Lord of Heaven and Earth; by whose Spirit all things are governed, and by whose becke and providence all things are directed: thou onely art the God of peace, from whom all peace and concord doe proceede: wee humbly beseech thee to forgiue us our sinnes, and to giue us thy holy peace and true concord: that in thy feare we may serue thee, and for ever laud & praise thee:

thee: who together with the Sonne and Holy Ghoſt liveſt and reigneſt one true and eternall God. Amen.

IV.

For the King.

1 ALmightie God, heavenly Father, for Ieſus Chriſt thy beloved Sonne we beſeech thee, favourably to looke downe upon our King: guide him with thy holy Spirit: keepe him with a guard of thine Angels, againſt all dangers both of ſoule and body: keepe him ſafely from all misfortunes: ſo bring it to paſſe, that by the expedition which he now makes, we may be delivered 3 from our enemies; and that by his ſafe returne, we being made joyfull; may from thenceforth laud, honour, and prayſe thee, world without end. Amen.

Another.

2 THe King ſhall rejoyce in thy ſtrength, Pſal. 21. O Lord: exceeding glad ſhall he be of thy ſalvation. Thou haſt given him his

his hearts deſire; and not denyed him the requeſt of his lippes For thou haſt filled him with the beſt of thy bleſſings; and haſt ſet a Crowne of pure gold upon his head. He aſked life of thee, and thou gaveſt him a long life, even for ever and ever. His honour is great in thy ſalvation: glory and great worſhip haſt thou laid upon him. For thou haſt filled him with all kind of bleſſings for ever; and thou ſhalt make him glad with the joy of thy countenance. Heare him, Lord, in the time of trouble, let thy Name ſet him in a ſafe place. Send him helpe from the Sanctuary, and ſtrengthen him out of *Sion*. Remember alſo all his offerings; and accept his burnt Sacrifice. Grant him his hearts deſire, and fulfill all his mind. Helpe Lord thine Anointed, and heare him from thy Sanctuary, through Ieſus Chriſt. Amen. Pſal. 20. 1.

Another.

GRant peace, O God, unto our King and all his Officers, well to governe the Common-wealth: that vnder them we may lead a Chriſtian, a quiet, and a peace- 3

able life, in all devotion, and in honeſtie, Amen.

Another.

4 O Eternall and mercifull God, heavenly Father, that haſt the hearts of all Kings in thy hands, and boweſt them which way thou pleaſeſt; ſo bring it to paſſe that by this troubleſome warre, the meanes of making a good agreement, and of eſtabliſhing a ſure peace, may be found out: all heart-burning, offences, and diſſention removed. Thou from whom all helpe in earth commeth, helpe us; that ſo we may liue peaceably and quietly in all devotion and honeſtie. We haue, to confeſſe the truth, plucked downe all thy plagues, vpon our ſelues, by our ſinfulneſſe, faultineſſe, and tranſgreſſions. But rebuke vs not in thine anger, neyther chaſten vs in thy heavie diſpleaſure. Correct vs, to amend vs, but not vtterly to deſtroy vs. Enlighten our eyes, that we ſleepe not in death. Returne at length, and be gracious vnto vs: ſatisfie vs with thy goodneſſe, that we may rejoyce & be glad all the dayes of

of our life. Comfort vs according to the time thou haſt afflicted vs ; and the yeares wherein we haue ſuffered adverſitie. Remember not our former iniquities. Haue mercy vpon vs, and that ſoone ; for wee are brought very low. Helpe vs, O God our helper, for the honour of thy Name. Deliver vs and forgiue vs our ſinnes, for thy Names ſake ; becauſe thou art the Lord, the higheſt aboue all the world : thou art long-ſuffering, of great goodneſſe, and gratious: nor art thou prone vnto anger and to vengeance ; ſeeing to thoſe that repent, thou haſt promiſed remiſſion of all their ſinnes. So ſhall we thy people, and the ſheepe of thy paſture, giue thee thankes for ever, and will ſpeake of thy praiſe from generation to generation. Amen.

V.

Againſt all evill.

O Lord God, heavenly Father, that deſpiſeſt not the ſighing of the miſerable, nor the deſire of ſuch as be afflicted ; mercifully heare our prayers which we

make before thee in theſe our neceſſities: and grant that thoſe evills which the Devill or man worketh againſt vs, be brought to nought, and that by the providence of thy goodneſſe, they may be diſperſed: that we being hurt by no perſecution, may giue thee thankes in thy holy Church, and prayſe thee evermore for the ſame, thorough Ieſus Chriſt thy Sonne our Lord. Amen.

Another Prayer.

2 O Lord God heavenly Father, who well knoweſt, that by reaſon of our humane frailtie we are not able of our ſelues to ſubſiſt in ſo many dangers: graunt ſuch ſtrength vnto vs both of ſoule and body, that whatſoever doth vexe or trouble vs by reaſon of our ſinnes, wee may by thine aſſiſtance be able to overcome, through Ieſus Chriſt our Lord. Amen.

Another.

Another.

ALmightie and eternall God, which out of thine own meere mercy haſt called vs miſerable ſinners vnto the knowledge of thy ſelfe in Ieſus Chriſt; we from the bottome of our hearts entreate thee, to governe vs by thy Holy Spirit, and to guard vs by thy holy Angels; that neyther the Devill, or naughtie people, no nor the wickedneſſe of our own ſinfull fleſh, may thruſt vs headlong into ſecuritie, or to the leading of a wicked life, to the offence of our brethren: but that being by thee delivered out of all their ſnares, we may haue thee alwayes before our eyes, loue thee aboue all, and our neighbour as our ſelues: profiting thereby in faith, charitie, hope, and patience; vntill the comming of our bleſſed Saviour Ieſus Chriſt, to deliver vs out of all theſe evils, with which we haue a daily conflict here in this world; and to tranſlate vs vnto joyes celeſtiall: To whom with thee and the Holy Ghoſt, be all honour and glory world without end. Amen. 3

VI.

Against our enemies.

O Lord Ieſus Chriſt, Sonne of the living God; thou onely art the true Souldier and Captaine, the Lord mightie in Battell: Behold, thine enemies rage mightily, and thoſe that hate thee riſe vp againſt vs: they take ſubtle counſell together againſt thy people, and lay their heads together againſt thy ſecret ones. Goe too, ſay they, let vs cut thē off that they be no more a people, & that the name of *Iſrael* may be blotted out. For we put not our truſt in our owne ſtrength; for we know, that there is no King that can
Pſal. 33. 15. be ſaved by the multitude of an Hoſt; neyther is any mightie man delivered by much ſtrength. An horſe is counted but a vaine thing to ſaue a man; neyther ſhall he deliver any man by his great ſtrength: but our truſt is in thee, that art our refuge, and a Tower of defence againſt our enemies. Thou being
Pſal. 18. 29. our Captaine, we ſhall diſcomfit an Hoſt of men; and with the helpe of our God, wee ſhall leape over the wall. Thou being our ayde, we ſhall doe famous exployts; thou art

art able to beate our enemies to duſt : they compaſſe vs about ; but in thy name we will deſtroy them : they come about vs like Bees, & ſmoake againſt vs like fire among thornes; but in thy Name wee will deſtroy them. Thou overthreweſt *Pharaoh* and his Hoſt in the red Sea ; thou conſtreynedſt *Senacherib* to turne againe into his owne Country : thou overthreweſt proud *Haman* ; and threweſt owne the haughtie *Holofernes*. So Lord deale with our enemies : doe vnto them as thou diddeſt vnto the *Madianites*, and as vnto *Siſera* and *Iabin* at the brooke *Kiſon*. Make their Princes like *Oreb* and *Zeb* ; and their Leaders like vnto *Zeba* and *Salmana*. Let the miſchiefe which they prepare for others, fall vpon their owne heads ; and their wickedneſſe vpon their owne pates. So ſhall wee ſing of thy power, and prayſe thy goodneſſ betimes in the morning. For thou God art our Protector, & our refuge in all our neceſſities Amen.

A Prayer of King Aſa, 2 *Chron.* 14. 11 *&c.*

ASA cryed vnto the Lord his God and ſaid ; Lord, it is nothing with thee, to helpe, whether with many, or with them

them that haue no power. Helpe vs O Lord our God, for we reſt on thee, and in thy name we goe againſt this multitude. O Lord thou art our God, let not man prevaile againſt vs.

A Prayer of Iudas Macchabæus *vnto his Souldiers*, 1 Macchab. 4. 8.

THen ſayd *Iudas* to the men that were with him, Feare yee not their multitude, neyther be yee afraid of their aſſault. Remember how our Fathers were delivered in the red Sea, when *Pharaoh* purſued them with an Army. Now therefore let vs cry vnto Heaven, if peradventure the Lord will haue mercy vpon vs, and remember the Covenant of our Fathers, and deſtroy this Hoſt before our face this day. That ſo all the Heathen may know, that there is one, who deliverеth and ſaveth *Iſrael*.

A Prayer

A Prayer of Luther *for Souldiers,*

found in the 3. Tome of the Edition at Iena, *fol.* 330.

HEavenly Father, here am I by thy divine will in this externall calling, under the Command of my Generall; firſt to ſerue thee, as is fitting; and then for thee to obey my Captaine. I giue due thanks unto thy goodneſſe and mercy, that thou haſt called me unto this condition, and ſet me about that worke, which I aſſuredly know to be no ſinne, but a right action, and a ſervice acceptable unto thy will. And for that I haue learned out of thy ſaving Word, that our owne good workes doe not profit us for the meriting of ſalvation; and that no man is ſaved for that he is a Souldier, but for that he is a Chriſtian; I will not therefore put my confidence in this worke and ſervice of mine: but what ever I doe, I will doe it with a good will, as to doe thee a ſervice: and I out of the bottom of my heart beleeue, that I am redeemed and ſaved, onely by the innocent bloud of thy beloved Sonne, my Lord Ieſus Chriſt, which according to thy will, he ſhed for me vpon the Altar of the

Crosse. In this beliefe I resolue to stand, in this will I liue and dye; for this doe I now fight and take paines: O Lord God, heavenly Father, preserue and encrease this faith in me, through thy Holy Spirit. Amen.

Against the Plague, and other noysome Diseases.

ALmightie God, Lord and Father of all grace and consolation, haue mercy vpon vs, and vpon thy Christian people. Consume vs not in thy fury by this contagious pestilence: but as in the time of *David* thou commaundedst the destroying Angell to hold his hand, and giue over killing: so cause, O most gracious Lord, this terrible rod of thine anger to cease from vs, and not to destroy thine afflicted people. Strengthen vs with the wholsome power of thy Word, that we may be healthy both in soule & body; that we may laud & prayse thee here on earth for a time, and for ever in the Heavens. O Lord Iesus Christ, succour vs in this sickly time, for those bitter paines that for our sakes thou sometimes enduredst: make inter-

terceſſion for vs with thy heavenly Father: defend vs againſt the heavie wrath of God; forgiue vs our treſpaſſes; giue thine innocency vnto vs. Call to minde in this grievous plague-time, how much our Redemption coſt thee, and ſuffer not that thy bloud-ſhed for vs, to be loſt, or become in vaine. O Holy Ghoſt, vouchſafe thou to deſcend ſweetly into our languiſhing hearts; refreſh thou and recreate our ſoules. And if it ſo fall out that this plague ſtrike vs alſo, then take thou the cure of our ſoules in that houre, in which we muſt depart out of this life: lay vs in the moſt ſweete boſome of Chriſt our Redeemer, that we may be there partakers of eternall joy and quietneſſe. Fulfill all thy moſt ſweete promiſes in us, which are in thy Word made unto vs. Take from us all unbeliefe, doubting, and impatience: make us ever readie to obey the will of God, even thou, who with the Father and the Sonne, liveſt one God world without end. Amen.

Of forgiueneſſe of Sinnes: and of the Lords Supper.

O Good Lord Ieſus Chriſt: I am no way able eyther in words or thought, ſufficiently to make expreſſion of thy great loue, which thou haſt declared towards me, at ſuch time as thou receivedſt me miſerable ſinner into grace, and haſt made me to eate and drinke of thy true body and bloud, vnto euerlaſting life. Accept in the meane time this ſacrifice of Thankeſgiving of my heart and mouth, which in this mortall bodie I am able to pay unto thee; untill I come home unto thee, where I ſhall for ever praiſe thee. Giue thy Holy Spirit unto me, who may teach me to know how much good thou haſt alreadie wrought in me: that ſo in faith, charitie, hope, & patience, I may begin to leade a new life; vnto thy prayſe, mine owne amendment, and the good of my neighbour. Grant this for the merit of thy precious bloud, and the redemption which thou thereby haſt made. Amen.

And

And theſe be ſome of thoſe devout prayers, with which this moſt pious Prince teaches his Army, to call vpon the Lord of Hoſts and Victory. Now vnto theſe good prayers, let all religious Readers that wiſh well vnto this King; adde this or the like, for a cloſe vnto the reſt. The Lord heare thee in the time of trouble, and the name of the God of *Iacob* defend thee; be vnto thee a Shield, and Buckler, againſt thine enemies: arme thee with the ſword of *Gideon*: and the Lord of Hoſts goe forth with thine Armies: that the Victories which God ſhall giue thee, may bring freedome and juſtice vnto the innocent and oppreſſed, inlargement to Religion, liberty to *Germany*: and the benefits of a ſweet and a laſting peace vnto all Chriſtendome. This grant vs for the Prince of Peace his ſake, Ieſus Chriſt our Lord. Amen.

AND now that you may know that the King of *Sweden* doth not onely enjoyne others to pray, but that in his owne perſon he practiſes theſe devotions by himſelfe; I will here ſubjoyne you two ſeverall prayers, conceived, no doubt, in his owne

more private and premeditated consideration; and uttered in publicke, and *extempore*, as it seemed. The first was at his Majesties first landing upon the coasts of *Germanie*; where so soone as ever he out of his long boate set his foote upon the dry Land, he thus by prayer and thankesgiving, in Gods Name tooke possession of the Countrey; himselfe whilest his men were landing, stepping a little aside, and before them all, upon his knees, uttering these words of devotion. O most great God, that commaundest what ever thou pleasest both in heaven, and earth, and in the surging Seas: what thankfulnesse am I now bound to render unto thee, for that thou hast preserved me thus safely, in all this so perilous a voyage? Againe and againe doe I from the very bottome of my heart and soule, giue thankes unto thee: and here I humbly beseech thee, that seeing, as thou very well knowest, I haue not undertaken this expedition for any private end of mine owne, but onely for thine honours sake; and to be some comfort and assistance unto thine afflicted Church: so (if so be the time which thy selfe hast appoynted, be alreadie come) thou wouldst now be pleased

to

to favour and bleſſe me hereafter alſo: and that, eſpecially, thou wouldſt ſend me a fayre winde and a proſperous; that the Army yet left behinde, which out of ſo many people and Nations I haue gathered together; I may with joyfull eyes ſhortly here behold, and with a happie beginning promote with them the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

When his Counſellors and Commanders then next his perſon, ſaw their devout King thus on the bare ground upon his knees; and heard with what a fervencie of ſpirit he uttered theſe devotions; an inward comfort and an holy joy they tooke at it, wrought more with them than their enemies could yet ever doe; that is, even forced, and preſſed teares out of their manly eyes. This his pious Majeſtie then perceiving, Forbeare to weepe, ſayes he to them, but heartily conjoyne your prayers with me: for the greater the army of prayers is, the greater and more aſſured ſhall the victory be. He that prayes diligently, hath in part overthrowne the enemy already, and already gotten the victory. Thus having ſayd, he out of two hundred long boates lands his men, then on the

ſhoares

ſhoares ſide, and then ſends them to his ſhippes to fetch more: and God ſo heard him, and the winde ſo favoured him; that according to his former prayers, his whole Army very ſhortly, and very ſafely arrived.

I will not here compare this prayer of this pious and victorious Prince, vnto that of the great *Ioſuah*; at whoſe requeſt the Sunne ſtood ſtill, as the winde here did at his: but that you may ſee that God did indeed heare the prayers of this King too; I will now giue you a more eminent example of it. The Papiſts, had one of theirs done it, would undoubtedly haue cryed out, A miracle: and well they might: for few ſuch they haue, but I will onely thinke of it, as of a preſent and a viſible bleſſing ſent from that great God, to whom the windes and the Seas obeyed. And thus it was.

The King a little after this, having a deſigne upon *Stetin*; and his Army now readie upon the ſhoare, and his boats readie upon the River to imbarke them; the winde, behold, was contrary, and ſo had beene for ſome dayes before. This the King obſerving, turning a little aſide, he before his Army

my with bended knees, and hands lift up to Heaven, uttered theſe words.

O thou moſt juſt God! full well thou knoweſt, that this enterpriſe I did not at firſt undertake, out of any raſhneſſe, or ambition, but for the glory of thy moſt holy Name, and the defence of the truth of thy Word: here, therefore, now call I vpon thy Godhead, and moſt humbly doe I beſeech thee; that with the ayre of thy favour, and with a proſperous winde, thou wouldſt vouchſafe to breath vpon this my vndertaking. Amen.

No ſooner was this prayer ended, but the winde ſuddenly, as a man might ſay, chopt about, and ſwel'd the *Swediſh* ſayles with ſo hard a gale, that the whole Fleete paſſing the *Swine*, or arme of the *Oder*, was in two houres ſpace runne full ſixe *Germane* myles (twentie of ours perchance if not more) and all on the ſudden, when they were little looked for, came to an Anchor within an *Engliſh* myle of *Stetin*, to the great admiration of the beholders, and the greater de-

feate of the hopes and purposes of the *Imperialists*; who had a designe within two dayes after, to haue layd siege to the same Towne, had not God thus miraculously prevented them.

And thus much, though I now giue you, out of a *Latine* Copie; yet, to confesse the truth, did I in the writing of my former Booke, finde mentioned in one of the weekly *Currantoes*: how that the Kings Fleete was by a strong and a sudden Northerly winde, strangely advanced through the *Oder*, even to the very walles of the Citie. But this I durst not then write, vpon the bare credite of a common *Curranto*; nor durst I with this winde (though a strong one it were) aduenture to stemme the tyde of popular opinion; which I found not onely to runne against, but (to vse the language of the Sea) with a stiffe currant strongly to be set against the credite of these weekly *Currantoes*. Which warinesse of mine, made me indeed to leaue out many notable particulars, which I since finde reported, in the Booke called *Arma Suecica*.

God Almightie, that hath so graciously

both heard and granted, theſe two prayers of this pious King; heare all the reſt alſo: both thoſe that himſelfe makes, and what other good Chriſtians make likewiſe for him. And thoſe *Engliſhmen* that will not, I wiſh they would ſay *Amen* vnto it.

FINIS.

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